

VIRGINIA ROANOKE RIVER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Danville, Virginia

August 21, 2009

Virginia Roanoke River Advisory Committee: John Lindsey, Mark Wagner, Bob Jean, Billy Martin, Russ Johnson, Read Charlton, Senator Frank Ruff, Senator Roscoe Reynolds, Delegate Thomas Wright, , Delegate Charles Poindexter, Haywood Hamlet, John Feild, Mike McEvoy

Staff present:

Tammy Stephenson, DEQ; Jason Ericson, DEQ

Mr. McEvoy called the meeting to order.

Minutes

Upon a motion by Mr. Hamlet, seconded by Mr. Lindsey, minutes of the April 30, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

Upon a motion by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Feild, minutes of the June 30, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.

By Laws

Mr. McEvoy explained the draft By Laws for VRRBAC mirror the By Laws and committees for the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission.

There was much discussion regarding electronic voting. It was decided to eliminate this option in the VRRBAC By Laws upon a motion by Mr. Hamlet, seconded by Mr. Jean, and unanimous vote of the VRRBAC members present.

Mr. Lindsey made a motion to approve the By Laws and establish sub-committees consistent with the committees established by the Roanoke River Basin Bi-State Commission. Mr. Coles seconded the motion and it was approved by unanimous vote of the VRRBAC members present.

Committees

Mr. McEvoy mentioned the committees that were formed by the RRBBC at the morning meeting. Specifically, the following committees were established: Permit Holders Committee, Roanoke River Basin Interests Committee, Lake Interests Committee, Public officials and Government Entities Committee, and the Agriculture and Forestry Committee. He asked if members wished to establish any additional committees. None were mentioned. He said he hoped those currently serving as chairs of the sub-committees would continue to do so. Mr. McEvoy and Ms. Stephenson will draft mission for the committees by the next meeting.

Upon a motion by Senator Ruff, seconded by Mr. Charlton, VRRBAC voted unanimously to add a Lake Interests Sub-Committee and a River Interests Sub-Committee to the already established sub-committees.

Mr. McEvoy gave a report on the State Water Commission meeting held in July. He said that Dave Paylor and Scott Kudlas provided information on the State Water Resources Plan and a status of the water supply plans being developed by localities and regions across the state. Mr. McEvoy expressed his concern about the water supply planning process being separate from the permitting process. Eventually, they two may transition into a coordinated process. The water supply plans are mostly regional. Mr. McEvoy added that there is a proposal to expand the Ground Water Management Area, which currently includes all localities east of I-95.

Mr. McEvoy explained that the Virginia State Water Control Board approved putting out for public comment the Dan River public water supply designation. Ms. Stephenson explained the tie frame for this. The issue is currently under Executive Review by the Secretary of Natural Resources and the Governor. As soon as they advise, a public notice will be published on Town Hall and the 60-day comment period will begin.

Barry Dunkley, Danville Utilities Director, expressed concern with Danville's wastewater treatment plant that is upstream of this intake and could possibly have limitations placed on it due to this designation, if approved. Also, he said there is concern about the intake and discharge being so far apart, about 30 miles.

Mr. McEvoy said that Evelyn Janney, VRRBAC member, called to let him know her husband had taken a turn for the worse yesterday, so she was not able to attend the meeting as planned.

Ms. Stephenson handed out a spreadsheet detailing all VRRBAC members' terms on the Committee, some of which have expired. Senator Ruff said he plans to propose legislation to eliminate term limits from the VRRBAC and RRBBC enabling legislation.

Presentations

Mr. McEvoy introduced Neil Zahradka:

Neil Zahradka grew up on a small family farm in Prince George, VA, and is a graduate of the Agricultural Engineering department at Virginia Tech. He has worked for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation as a nutrient management specialist, as well as a swine production company, where he produced site plans for contract farmers, as well as managing over 3000 acres of swine waste land application sites in Virginia and North Carolina. Neil came to DEQ in 2004 as the coordinator for the livestock and poultry program, and became the manager of the DEQ Office of Land Application Programs in 2007, after the biosolids program was transferred from the Virginia Department of Health to DEQ.

Mr. Zahradka gave a PowerPoint presentation on Virginia's Biosolids Program. The presentation is a part of these minutes.

Other Business

Mr. Feild commented that in regard to the Kerr 216 Study, they are still waiting on the RRBBC protocol recommendation.

Mr. McEvoy mentioned Roanoke River Water Currents Conference held at Ferrum on August 14. The event was a success.

Mr. Wagner said he would try to get some information on the fish kill to send out to everyone.

It was suggested that the committees try to meet before the next meeting.

Members will be polled for the next meeting. Mr. Johnson offered to give an update on the Environmental Impact Statement for the Smith Mountain Lake FERC re-licensing.

As there was no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned.